

STRONG PLATFORM ADOPTED BY THE GRANT COUNTY DEMOCRATS

Legislative Candidates Will Run on Definite County Salary Declaration Providing Reasonable Pay.

PROPOSED FUSION IS PROMPTLY TURNED DOWN

Visiting Congressman Pays Splendid Tribute to Congressman Ferguson His Ability and Service.

(Staff Correspondence.)

Silver City, N. M., Sept. 27.—The Democrats of Grant county held their second convention of the present political campaign here Saturday. The convention was well attended and enthusiastic. Although only eight out of the twenty-eight precincts were represented they were the larger ones in which the bulk of the vote is polled. The small precincts in the far distant parts of the county were not represented.

Senator W. B. Walton, as chairman of the county committee, called the convention to order. James Royal, a member of the bar, was elected temporary chairman, and made a vigorous speech along state lines.

Hon. John T. Watkins, a member of Congress from Louisiana and chairman of the committee on the revision of laws, who is temporarily residing in Silver City, on invitation of the convention addressed the assembly on the achievements and record of the national administration. His speech was listened to with great interest and telling points were warmly applauded. He made a passing reference to Mr. Hernandez's candidacy for congress and said: "No matter how honest, honest and upright a man may be, if he is not accurate he may do his state and the country at large irreparable damage in the halls of congress. Congress deals with appropriations that run in the millions and accuracy is as necessary as integrity. The charge of inaccuracy brought against Mr. Hernandez is enough to favor Mr. Hernandez's re-election."

Referring to Mr. Ferguson directly, the distinguished speaker said in part:

"When the interests of New Mexico are involved Judge Ferguson is always on the alert and never fails to speak a good word in behalf of his state. He has one of the largest congressional districts in the Union. Where other members have a county or a number of counties, Judge Ferguson has an entire commonwealth. His interests are diversified—mining, stock raising, farming, fruit growing—simply to mention a few. He is sturdy, loyal and honest; assiduous in the discharge of his duty—always at his post, working day and night for his district. He is one of the most popular members in the halls of congress and no man in such a short time has had such widespread influence. He is recognized for his integrity, honesty, nobility of character and genuinity. He has stood by the Democratic administration. What good would it do to send a man to Washington of another political faith to baffle and annoy the administration?"

"When I found it necessary to come west I consulted Judge Ferguson."

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"I have always recommended your medicine ever since I was so wonderfully benefited by it and I hope this letter will be the means of saving some other poor woman from suffering."—Mrs. MARTHA SEAVEY, Box 1144, Unionville, Missouri.

The makers of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound have thousands of such letters as that above—they tell the truth, else they could not have been obtained for love or money. This medicine is no stranger—it has stood the test for years.

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son about his state. He regarded me about his attractions, and the advantages it possessed from a health standpoint. I have only been here a few weeks, but I must say that not a single representation made by him has failed to be fulfilled."

After discussing the tariff, the currency, income tax, free coin, labor and the Mexican policy, the orator closed his address with a beautiful peroration which was loudly applauded.

At the conclusion of Judge Wal-

kins' address Senator Walton, as chairman of the committee on resolutions, then read the platform as follows:

We, the Democratic party of Grant county, New Mexico, in convention assembled at Silver City, N. M., on the 26th day of September 1914, do reaffirm our continued adherence to the principles of Democracy.

We endorse, in every particular the platform adopted by the Democratic party of New Mexico in state convention assembled at Albuquerque, N. M., on August 15, 1914.

We reiterate our opposition to all three proposed amendments to the state constitution to be voted on November 3rd next and condemn them as vicious and unnecessary.

We pledge our loyal support to the candidates nominated by said state convention—Hon. H. B. Ferguson for congress and Hon. Adolph P. Hill for state corporation commissioner. Both nominees are entitled to the suffrage of the voters of New Mexico; Mr. Ferguson for the reason that he has been a faithful, persistent and conscientious representative supporting the policies of the national administration and working unceasingly in behalf of the people of the state. Mr. Hill for the reason that he is able, competent, and particularly fitted to perform the duties of the office for which he has been nominated.

We believe that the most important issue in the present campaign is the election of a decent legislature—one which will legislate for the state and the people and not for special interests.

There is urgent necessity for the enactment of reform legislation by the next legislature and as to what we consider the most needed measures we make the following declarations:

County Salaries.

We favor the election of county officials who are entirely qualified to perform the duties of their respective offices and who will give such offices their personal time and attention, and we believe that just and living salaries should be paid to such officers on the supposition that they will conduct the public business with the highest degree of efficiency.

With this end in view we recommend the following compensation as proper for the officers of Grant county:

County commissioners—\$600 per annum and mileage.

Probate judge—\$600 per annum.

Court clerk—not to exceed \$2400 per annum and not to exceed \$1200 per annum for deputy and clerk hired in office proper; the county commissioners to authorize the employment and fix the salaries of deputies and assistants; also a salary not to exceed \$900 per annum for clerical assistance necessary to conduct the office of district court clerk.

County treasurer—not to exceed \$2400 per annum.

County assessor—not to exceed \$2400 per annum and not to exceed \$600 per annum for deputy hire, the county commissioners to authorize the employment and fix the salaries of deputies.

Sheriff—not to exceed \$2750 per annum, \$1500 for deputy hire and provision for the appointment of additional deputies when necessary, the district judge to authorize the employment and fix the salaries of such additional deputies, said sheriff to be allowed actual and necessary traveling expenses to be verified under oath and accompanied by proper receipts.

County school superintendent—\$1800 per annum.

County surveyor—\$19 per diem to cover salary and all personal expenses.

The county commissioners to advertise for bids for the feeding of county prisoners and to award the contract therefore to the lowest responsible bidder, but at a rate not to exceed 50¢ per day and payment to be made only for meals actually furnished.

Election Laws.

We favor the enactment of an efficient and workable direct primary law which will deprive the politicians of party control and permit the voters to select candidates for office without interference or dictation.

We favor the enactment of a law providing for a modified form of the Australian ballot adapted to the special conditions existing in New Mexico.

We favor an amendment to the law known as the corrupt practices act prohibiting under heavy penalty the hiring of political workers on election day and prior thereto.

Roads.

We recognize the importance of good roads and favor all legislation having for its object the substantial and permanent improvement of the public highways.

We favor the enactment of a law which will return to the county from which paid all automobile and motor vehicle license fees.

We are opposed to the present road tax law passed by a Republican legislature and demand that it be repealed and that an adequate and just law on the subject be enacted, limiting the collection of a tax for road purposes to \$1.

Taxation and Revenue.

Under the present system of taxation New Mexico has the lowest assessed valuation and the highest rate of taxation in the Union, and if we intend to make our state attractive to investors and home seekers we must have a fair and honest valuation of property and a lower rate of taxation.

We consequently believe that all taxable property of whatsoever kind or character should be assessed at its full cash value and the rate of taxation reduced accordingly, and we favor the enactment of legislation having for its purpose such object.

We favor the enactment of legis-

lation creating a temporary tax commission to make a thorough investigation of the present methods of taxation and equalization in New Mexico and of the laws of other states and submit recommendation, of such legislation as it may deem desirable and necessary to correct the defects now existing. For this purpose we favor an appropriation to pay the necessary expenses of such commission.

Public Funds.

We favor the enactment of a law requiring the payment by depositaries of a reasonable rate of interest on daily balances on all state, county, municipal, institutional and public funds of every character.

W. B. WALTON,
W. J. CAREGAN,
J. M. TRIPPE.

Announcement was made that the committee representing the Republicans to place their plan for a non-partisan ticket before the convention was present, and a motion to appoint a committee of four to meet the Republicans was carried. H. J. Burgess was made chairman of the committee. After a short parley the committee returned and reported that they divided two and two on the proposition. Senator Walton then moved that the Republican plan be rejected, following his motion with an impassioned speech in which he declared that he would rather see the party ticket go down to honorable defeat than be a party to such an unholy alliance. H. J. Burgess, Then W. Carter and James Royal spoke along the same lines. Frank Frank Vesey championed the Republican cause in a vigorous speech. Mr. Walton had his forces well mobilized, however, and the proposition was, on a rising vote, overwhelmingly rejected.

After the tumult and shouting had died, and the captain and the king, in the person of the Republican com-

mittee, had departed, the convention

proceeded to the nomination of a ticket for the legislature. Raymond R. Ryan, former assistant district attorney, and Thomas W. Holland, a farmer at Cibola in the Upper Gila precinct, were nominated by acclamation. Both were present and made speeches accepting the nomination. Mr. Ryan formerly resided in Albuquerque and was connected with the law office of Senator Bascom Barth.

The political parties in this section are experiencing as much difficulty in getting men to run for the legislature as the government is in getting bids on the Mosquero mail contract. The candidates selected by the Democrats are good, clear men and the ticket, as named, is as strong as it is possible to get.

ORTIZ OFFICIALLY DECLARED ON THE TICKET

Nester Montoya Gives Out Statement This Afternoon That Terms of Treaty of Santa Fe Have Been Complicated With.

NO ANNOUNCEMENT AT THE G. O. P. MEETING

Judge Edward A. Mann,
Hon. Nester Montoya.

Hon. Mulesta L. Ortiz.

These three names the Herald newspaper has chosen to constitute the Bernalillo county Republican ticket for the state legislature.

Our authority is none other than that of Mr. Montoya himself who states that the ticket is finally, fully, completely and definitely settled and that there will be no change. The ticket, Mr. Montoya said this afternoon, was agreed upon yesterday afternoon at a meeting of the same committee of conciliation which concluded the treaty of Santa Fe, when the warring factions were brought closer together.

Why the announcement of the ticket was not made last night at the Republican meeting is not known, and Mr. Montoya did not say.

"You may quote me," said Mr. Montoya this afternoon, "as stating that at a meeting of the same committee who concluded the treaty of Santa Fe, held yesterday afternoon, Judge Mann, Modesto Ortiz and myself were finally agreed upon as the legislative ticket. That is the final ticket which will stand through the campaign and upon which every one is agreed."

NO ANNOUNCEMENT AT MEETING OF REPUBLICANS LAST NIGHT

Mystery, dark and impenetrable as the tomb continues to surround the personnel of the Bernalillo county Republican candidates for the state legislature. A good sized crowd of faithful party workers, some not so faithful, and a sprinkling of curious Democrats gathered in the Republican headquarters at 267 West Gold avenue last night, confident that the time had come for unveiling the men who will head the party's fall campaign. The gathering was tense with interest.

But there was nothing doing on candidates. Hon. Modesto Ortiz was present, was called upon for a speech and refused to talk. Almost every one else talked, but the old Albuquerque orator sat silent in his seat. He did not appear to be sinking in his seat and his refusal to respond to the demand for a speech only served to deepen the impenetrable veil which has been drawn by the censors around the struggle raging in the United Republican party of Imperial Bernalillo.

Aside from the disappointment of the expectant audience over the mere matter of who is running on the ticket, the meeting was notable chiefly for the unanimous demand of the speakers for united support of that ticket. The only other feature was an elaborate elucidation of the tariff which it was declared was the supreme issue in the campaign.

All efforts to find out who are the

legitimate candidates or who they are likely to be proved futile. The rank and file didn't know and the bosses wouldn't say.

Another meeting was announced for Friday night but no intimation

was given that there would be any clearing up of the mystery to be expected at that time.

How's This?

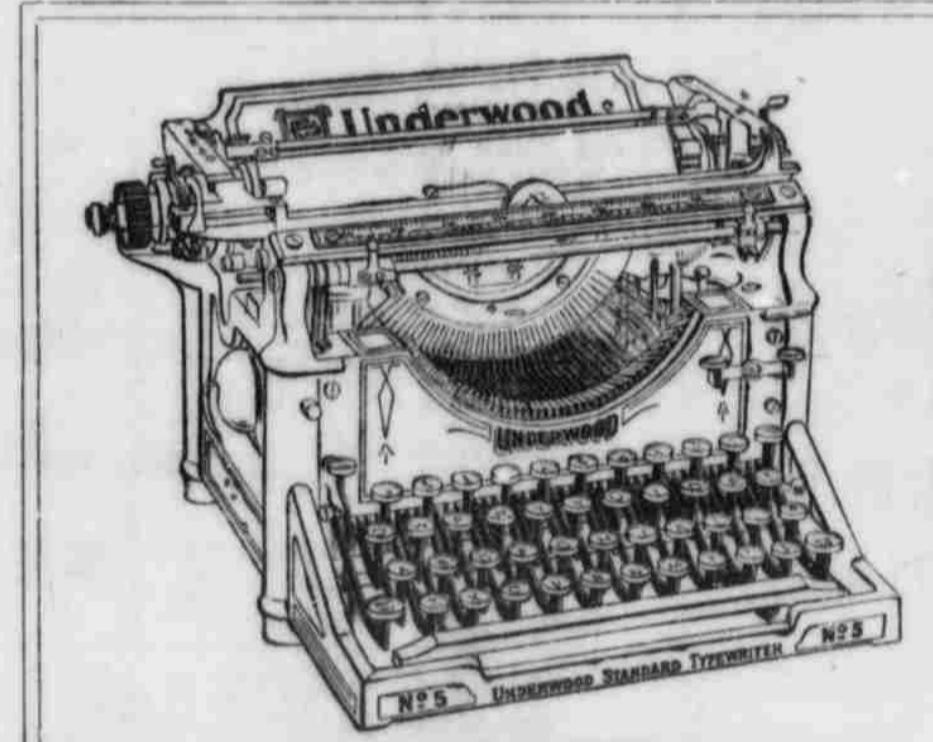
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